

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14853

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE UK NATO
SUBJECT: US-UK CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE

REF: STATE 207096

SUMMARY. US-UK DISCUSSIONS ON CSCE SEPT 6 REFLECTED
CONTINUING CLOSE IDENTITY OF VIEWS ON SUBSTANTIVE AND
PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE
CONFERENCE, ALTHOUGH FCO REMAINS WATCHFUL OF EVENTUAL
USG APPROACH TO HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AT BELGRADE.

TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION AT FCO INCLUDED KENNETH SCOTT,
NEW HEAD OF FCO EE AND SOVIET DEPT, PETER SUMMERSCALE,
HEAD OF CSCE UNIT, AND JOHN GORDON AND CHRISTOPHER LONG
OF FCO. ON US SIDE WERE JOHN KORNBLUM, EUR/RPM; SPENCER
OLIVER, STAFF DIRECTOR CSCE COMMISSION; CLIFFORD BRODY,
D/HA; AND EMBOFF. (FOLLOWING NOT REVIEWED BY WASHINGTON
PARTICIPANTS PRIOR THEIR DEPARTURE TO BRUSSELS.)

1. NEW PROPOSALS. UK (SUMMERSCALE) REVIEWED EC 9
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DISCUSSIONS LAST WEEK WHERE AGREEMENT REACHED ON UK
DRAFT ON "PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING IMPLEMENTATION" /
(COPIES PROVIDED US PARTICIPANTS). UK STILL SEEKING TO
REFINE IDEAS AND ENCOURAGE DIVISION OF LABOR AMONG NINE
AS TO HOW, WHEN, AND BY WHOM IDEAS MIGHT BE PRESENTED
AT BELGRADE. BOTH SIDES AGREED CONSIDERABLE NATO STUDY
STILL NEEDED ON RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS NEW

PROPOSALS AND HOW THEY MIGHT AFFECT BELGRADE REVIEW OF PAST PERFORMANCE AS WELL AS POSSIBILITIES FOR AGREEMENT ON FINAL DOCUMENT.

2. MAIN THEMES. RAISED AT UK INITIATIVE, THIS TOPIC LED TO EXTENDED ANALYSIS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF BELGRADE MEETING. WHILE HMG HAS NOT YET DETERMINED ITS POSITION, IT NOW INCLINED IN FIRST ROUND TO REFER TO PROBLEMS OF IMPLEMENTATION ON SUBJECTS SUCH AS FAMILY REUNIFICATION, WITHOUT REFERRING TO SPECIFIC COUNTRIES OR CASES. HOWEVER, UK STATEMENTS WILL BE CLEARLY CRITICAL OF EE PERFORMANCE. IF SOVIET RESPONSE IS TO DENY THE PROBLEM EXISTS, UK WILL BE PREPARED TO CITE SPECIFIC CASES AS EVIDENCE TO BUTTRESS ITS INITIAL ASSERTIONS.

3. UK PARTICIPANTS WERE CLEARLY INTERESTED IN US PLANNING ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THEY POLITELY HOPED BELGRADE WOULD NOT BECOME US-USSR SLANGING MATCH BUT IN THE END SEEMED SOMEWHAT REASSURED THAT CONGRESS AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH WERE CAREFULLY CONSIDERING VARIOUS WAYS TO SET FORTH OUR GENUINE CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLEMENTATION IN EAST EUROPE IN A WAY THAT IS NON-POLEMICAL AND SUPPORTIVE OF BILATERAL EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF INDIVIDUAL CASES. TACTICAL PROBLEM AT BELGRADE WILL BE TO ASSESS SOVIET REACTIONS AND MANAGE EVENTS TO SERVE OUR OVERALL CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERESTS IN PRESERVING THE CSCE PROCESS AND INCREASING EE TOLERANCE FOR ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS IN THAT CONTEXT.

4. WHILE UK PARTICIPANTS DID NOT QUARREL WITH THIS RATIONALE, THEY CLEARLY REMAIN UNCOMFORTABLE WITH NOTION OF CITING SPECIFIC HUMAN RIGHTS CASES, ESPECIALLY IF IT APPARENT THAT THESE CASES ARE BEING PROMOTED BY PRIVATE GROUPS. BRITISH BELIEVE CITING SUCH DETAILS WOULD BE HARMFUL TO THEIR PRIVATE BILATERAL EFFORTS, THOUGH THEY DO NOT HAVE SAME PROBLEMS WITH CITING WELL-KNOWN "CAUSES CELEBRES" IN EE, E.G., SHARANSKY.

5. FINAL DOCUMENT. UK SEES THREE ELEMENTS AS ESSENTIAL IN FINAL BELGRADE DOCUMENT: A) FIRM COMMITMENT TO FULL AND URGENT IMPLEMENTATION OF FINAL ACT; B) CLEAR DECISION ON TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING; AND C) INCORPORATION, PERHAPS AS ANNEX, OF ANY NEW AGREED PROPOSALS.

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